



# NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **KEVIN SHELLEY**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation**

*Funding for K-12 Education and Voluntary Universal Preschool Program. Commercial Property Taxes. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.*

SAN FRANCISCO, CA --- Secretary of State Kevin Shelley announced today the proponents of a new initiative received clearance to begin collecting petition signatures.

**The Attorney General's official title and summary as received by the Secretary of State is as follows:**

FUNDING FOR K-12 EDUCATION AND VOLUNTARY UNIVERSAL PRESCHOOL PROGRAM. COMMERCIAL PROPERTY TAXES. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE. Provides additional funding for K-12 public education; establishes voluntary universal preschool program. Funds provided through additional taxes on commercial real property and commercial residential rental property that produces income. Creates state fund and allocates monies: 2/3 for kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, including class size reduction, textbooks, teacher salaries, benefits and training; 1/3 for voluntary universal preschool. Prohibits using funds for administrative costs as specified. Requires annual audits. Provides small business personal property tax exemption; reimburses state/local government to offset revenue decrease. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Additional property taxes on income-producing property of approximately \$6 billion annually (net), beginning in 2005-06. These revenues would be used for state-funded universal preschool and specified K-12 education purposes.

The proponents, Barbara Kerr and Rob Reiner, must collect 598,105 signatures of registered voters, 8 percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2002 gubernatorial election, for their measure. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions is June 10, 2004. The initiative proponents can be reached at 510-346-6200.

For a copy of the complete text, title & summary, and circulation calendar, please contact the Secretary of State's Press Office at 916-653-6575.